

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Please delete Claims 2-8, without prejudice, and add the claims as shown below.

1. (Original) An electrophotosensitive material comprising a supporting substrate, an intermediate layer containing a thermosetting resin formed on the supporting substrate, and a photosensitive layer formed on the intermediate layer,

wherein a contact angle of the surface of the intermediate layer is not less than a value ( $A^\circ$ ) represented by the formula:  $A^\circ = B^\circ - 2^\circ$  in which  $B^\circ$  is a contact angle corresponding to an intersection of a first approximation linear line and a second approximate linear line in a correlation curve between a residual potential of the photosensitive material comprising the predetermined photosensitive layer formed on the intermediate layer containing the thermosetting resin and a contact angle of the intermediate layer containing the thermosetting resin;

wherein the first approximate linear line denotes an approximate linear line of the portion where the residual potential decreases proportionally with an increase in contact angle in the correlation curve, while the second approximate linear line denotes an approximate linear line of the portion where a change in residual potential with an increase in contact angle nearly disappears.

2. – 8. (Cancelled)

9. (New) A method for producing an electrophotosensitive material comprising providing a supporting substrate,

forming an intermediate layer containing a thermosetting resin on the supporting substrate by depositing said intermediate layer on said supporting substrate, to thereby form a surface of the intermediate layer on said supporting substrate,

and then measuring a water contact angle of the surface of the intermediate layer,

and when said water contact angle is not less than a value ( $A^\circ$ ) represented by the formula:  $A^\circ = B^\circ - 2^\circ$  then forming a photosensitive layer on the surface of said intermediate layer,

in which  $B^\circ$  is a water contact angle corresponding to an intersection of a first approximate linear line and a second approximate linear line in a correlation curve between a residual potential of the electrophotosensitive material and a water contact angle of the intermediate layer;

wherein the first approximate linear line denotes an approximate linear line of a portion of said correlation curve where the residual potential decreases proportionally with an increase in water contact angle, while the second approximate linear line denotes an approximate linear line of the portion of the correlation curve where a change in residual potential with an increase in contact angle nearly disappears.

10. (New) The method for producing an electrophotosensitive material according to claim 9, wherein the correlation curve is derived from values as measured under plural heat treatment conditions for curing the thermosetting resin when the intermediate layer is formed.

11. (New) The method for producing an electrophotosensitive material according to claim 9, wherein the water contact angle is within a range from the value corresponding to the intersection plus 1° to the value corresponding to the intersection plus 7°.

12. (New) The method for producing an electrophotosensitive material according to claim 9, further comprising introducing a pigment into said intermediate layer.

13. (New) A method of producing an electrophotosensitive material, which comprises forming an intermediate layer containing a thermosetting resin on a supporting substrate, measuring a water contact angle of the surface of the intermediate layer, and forming a photosensitive layer on the intermediate layer when the water contact angle is within a predetermined range.

14. (New) The method of producing an electrophotosensitive material according to claim 13, wherein the water contact angle within the predetermined range is not less than a value  $A^\circ$  represented by the formula:  $A^\circ = B^\circ - 2^\circ$  in which  $B^\circ$  is a water contact angle corresponding to an intersection of a first approximate linear line and a second approximate linear line in a

correlation curve between a residual potential of the electrophotosensitive material and a water contact angle of the intermediate layer;

wherein the first approximate linear line denotes an approximate linear line of the portion of the correlation curve where the residual potential decreases proportionally with an increase in water contact angle, while the second approximate linear line denotes an approximate linear line of the portion of the correlation curve where a change in residual potential with an increase in water contact angle nearly disappears.

15. (New) A method of producing an electrophotosensitive material, which comprises forming an intermediate layer containing a thermosetting resin on a supporting substrate, carrying out a heat treatment so that a water contact angle is set within a predetermined range, and forming a photosensitive layer on the intermediate layer.

16. (New) The method of producing an electrophotosensitive material according to claim 15, wherein the water contact angle within the predetermined range is not less than a value ( $A^\circ$ ) represented by the formula:  $A^\circ = B^\circ - 2^\circ$  in which  $B^\circ$  is a water contact angle corresponding to an intersection of a first approximate linear line and a second approximate linear line in a correlation curve between a residual potential of the electrophotosensitive material and a water contact angle of the intermediate layer;

wherein the first approximate linear line denotes an approximate linear line of the portion of the correlation curve where the residual potential decreases proportionally with an

increase in water contact angle in the correlation curve, while the second approximate linear line denotes an approximate linear line of the portion of the correlation curve where a change in residual potential with an increase in water contact angle nearly disappears.

17. (New) A method for producing an electrophotosensitive material comprising providing a supporting substrate,

forming an intermediate layer containing a thermosetting resin formed on the supporting substrate by depositing said intermediate layer on said supporting substrate to thereby form a surface of said intermediate layer on said supporting substrate,

and then heating the intermediate layer to cure said intermediate layer,

measuring a water contact angle of said surface of the intermediate layer,

and when said water contact angle is not less than a value ( $A^\circ$ ) represented by the formula:  $A^\circ = B^\circ - 2^\circ$  then forming said photosensitive layer on the surface of said intermediate layer,

in which  $B^\circ$  is a water contact angle corresponding to an intersection of a first approximate linear line and a second approximate linear line in a correlation curve between a residual potential of the electrophotosensitive material and a water contact angle of the intermediate layer;

wherein the first approximate linear line denotes an approximate linear line of the portion of the correlation curve where the residual potential decreases proportionally with an increase in water contact angle, while the second approximate linear line denotes an approximate

linear line of the portion of the correlation curve where a change in residual potential with an increase in contact angle nearly disappears.